



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913  
PH (517) 373.2523 | FAX (517) 373.5669  
[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/johnson/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/johnson/)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, September 18, 2003

Contact: Rebecca DeVoght  
(517) 373-2523

## Senate Moves to Extend Merit Award Deadline

**September 18, 2003**--To keep the promise of the Michigan Merit Award Scholarship for eligible college freshmen, the Senate yesterday passed legislation to extend the deadline until November 15 of this year to certify MEAP results.

“Since the delay in processing MEAP scores began, students and parents have contacted my office wondering if they can depend on the Merit Award this year,” Senator Shirley Johnson (R-Troy), a co-sponsor of the measure stated. “The award represents a promise Michigan made to all high school students who performed well on the MEAP test. This extension provides an additional two months for the certification process.”

The measure, Senate Bill 701, extends the date by which a college freshman must certify his or her Merit Award score from September 15 to November 15 for this year only.

Postponement in the release of the MEAP test this summer has left many college freshmen awaiting notification of whether they qualify for the Merit Award Scholarships.

The Michigan Merit Award Board will not allocate scholarships unless they receive a request or application for payment from the student by the deadline.

SB 701 was passed under General Orders yesterday and will be sent to the House of Representatives for further consideration.